

IN THE CLAIMS

1-20. (cancelled)

21. (new) An information processing apparatus, comprising:

a processor, the processor being operable to control input of first data associated with content data to be broadcast by digital broadcast transmission, to generate first control information for controlling the deletion of the content data from a recording medium after the content data is received through the digital broadcast transmission and recorded onto the recording medium, the first control information for performing at least one of the following: (a) directly indicating a time interval from the time of recording the content data at which the content data is to be deleted; (b) indicating a permitted number of times for copying the content data after which the content data is to be deleted; (c) indicating a permitted number of times for reproducing the content data after which the content data is to be deleted; and (d) indicating that a charge for reproducing the content data changes in relation to the number of times the content data is reproduced; to insert the first control information and the first data into a control message, and to output the control message for multiplexing with the content data for broadcast via the digital broadcast transmission.

22. (new) The information processing apparatus according to claim 21, wherein the first control information indicates that a charge for reproducing the content data changes in relation to the number of times the content data is reproduced, the first control information further indicating a charging value to be divided in relation to a number n when the content data is reproduced an n th time.

23. (new) The information processing apparatus according to claim 21, wherein the first control information

indicates that the content data is to be deleted at the earliest of (a) a time interval measured from the time of recording the content data from the digital broadcast transmission, as indicated directly by the content data; and (b) after the content data is copied a permitted number of times.

24. (new) The information processing apparatus according to claim 21, wherein the control message includes an ECM (Entitlement Control Message) and the information processing apparatus further includes an encoder operable to encode the content data and to multiplex the encoded content data with the ECM via an MPEG2 (Motion Picture Experts Group 2) transport stream.

25. (new) The information processing apparatus according to claim 24, wherein the encoder is operable to multiplex the encoded content data in a carousel manner and the control message includes information inserted into an adaptation header of a DII (Download Info Indication) packet of the transport stream.

26. (new) The information processing apparatus according to claim 24, wherein the encoder is operable to multiplex the encoded content data in a carousel manner and the control message includes information inserted into an expire descriptor of a DII (Download Info Indication) packet of the transport stream.

27. (new) An information processing apparatus, comprising:

a recording medium;

a receiver operable to receive a digital broadcast transmission, to demultiplex the received transmission into content data and first control information, and to record the content data onto the recording medium, the first control information for controlling the deletion of the content data from the recording medium after the content data is received

through the digital broadcast transmission and recorded thereon, the first control information for performing at least one of the following: (a) directly indicating a time interval from the time of recording the content data at which the content data is to be deleted; (b) indicating a permitted number of times for copying the content data after which the content data is to be deleted; (c) indicating a permitted number of times for reproducing the content data after which the content data is to be deleted; and (d) indicating that a charge for reproducing the content data changes in relation to the number of times the content data is reproduced; and

a controller operable to delete the content data from the recording medium in accordance with the first control information.

28. (new) The information processing apparatus according to claim 27, wherein the first control information indicates that a charge for reproducing the content data changes in relation to the number of times the content data is reproduced, the first control information further indicating a charging value to be divided in relation to a number n when the content data is reproduced an n th time.

29. (new) The information processing apparatus according to claim 27, wherein the first control information indicates that the content data is to be deleted at the earliest of (a) a time interval measured from the time of recording the content data from the digital broadcast transmission, as indicated directly by the content data; and (b) after the content data is copied a permitted number of times.

30. (new) An information processing method, comprising:

controlling input of first data associated with content data to be broadcast by digital broadcast transmission;

generating first control information for controlling the deletion of the content data from a recording medium after the content data is received through the digital broadcast transmission and recorded onto the recording medium, the first control information for performing at least one of the following: (a) directly indicating a time interval from the time of recording the content data at which the content data is to be deleted; (b) indicating a permitted number of times for copying the content data after which the content data is to be deleted; (c) indicating a permitted number of times for reproducing the content data after which the content data is to be deleted; and (d) indicating that a charge for reproducing the content data changes in relation to the number of times the content data is reproduced;

inserting the first control information and the first data into a control message; and

outputting the control message for multiplexing with the content data for broadcast via the digital broadcast transmission.

31. (new) The method according to claim 30, further comprising:

multiplexing the content data with the control message to produce multiplexed data and transmitting the multiplexed data via digital broadcast transmission;

receiving and demultiplexing the multiplexed data by a second information processing apparatus having a recording medium to receive the content data and control information contained in the control message;

recording the received content data onto the recording medium; and

deleting the content data from the recording medium when one of the conditions indicated by the control information for deleting the content data is satisfied.

32. (new) The method according to claim 30, wherein the first control information indicates that a charge for reproducing the content data changes in relation to the number of times the content data is reproduced, and the first control information indicates a charging value to be divided by a number n when the content data is reproduced an n th time.

33. (new) The method according to claim 30, wherein the first control information indicates that the content data is to be deleted at the earliest of (a) a time interval measured from the time of recording the content data received through a broadcast transmission, as indicated directly by the content data; and (b) after the content data has been copied a permitted number of times.

34. (new) The method according to claim 30, wherein the control message includes an entitlement control message (ECM), further comprising encoding the content data and multiplexing the encoded content data with the ECM via an MPEG2 (Motion Picture Experts Group 2) transport stream.

35. (new) The method according to claim 34, further comprising multiplexing the encoded content data in a carousel manner, and inserting at least a portion of the information of the control message into an adaptation header of a DII (Download Info Indication) packet of the digital broadcast transmission.

36. (new) The method according to claim 34, further comprising multiplexing the content data in a carousel manner and inserting at least a portion of the information of the control message into an expire descriptor of a DII (Download Info Indication) packet of the digital broadcast transmission.

37. (new) A recording medium having information recorded thereon for performing a method, the method comprising:
controlling input of first data associated with content data to be broadcast by digital broadcast transmission;

generating first control information for controlling the deletion of the content data from a recording medium after the content data is received through the digital broadcast transmission and recorded onto the recording medium, the first control information for performing at least one of the following: (a) directly indicating a time interval from the time of recording the content data at which the content data is to be deleted; (b) indicating a permitted number of times for copying the content data after which the content data is to be deleted; (c) indicating a permitted number of times for reproducing the content data after which the content data is to be deleted; and (d) indicating that a charge for reproducing the content data changes in relation to the number of times the content data is reproduced;

inserting the first control information and the first data into a control message; and

outputting the control message for multiplexing with the content data for broadcast via the digital broadcast transmission.

38. (new) The recording medium as claimed in claim 37, wherein the first control information indicates that a charge for reproducing the content data changes in relation to the number of times the content data is reproduced, and the first control information indicates a charging value to be divided in relation to a number n when the content data is reproduced an n th time.

39. (new) The recording medium as claimed in claim 37, wherein the first control information indicates that the content data is to be deleted at the earliest of (a) a time interval measured from the time of recording the content data received through a broadcast transmission, as indicated directly by the content data; and (b) after the content data has been copied a permitted number of times.